

*WORK SESSION OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL/LEGISLATIVE DINNER held Wednesday, February 29, 2012, at Harry Brownes Restaurant in Annapolis, for the purpose of discussing the status of the City's legislative priorities and other legislative matters.*

*Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 8:10 p.m.*

*PRESENT WERE: Councilmembers Konrad E. Herling, Emmett V. Jordan, Leta M. Mach, Silke I. Pope, Edward V. J. Putens, Rodney M. Roberts and Mayor Judith F. Davis.*

*STAFF PRESENT WERE: Michael McLaughlin, City Manager; David E. Moran, Assistant City Manager; and Cindy Murray, City Clerk.*

*ALSO PRESENT WERE: State Delegates Anne Healey, Tawanna Gaines and Justin Ross.*

*Mayor Davis welcomed the legislators. She said the purpose of the gathering was for the City to receive an update on the status of pending legislation, including the priorities presented at the December legislative dinner.*

*The following City priority issues were reviewed and commented on.*

#### ***State Issues***

*HB 971/SB 1302 (Sales Tax on Gasoline): Delegate Healey advised there was not enough support for passage of HB 971/SB 1302 this session.*

*Noise Barriers: Delegate Healey advised there was a lack of funding for installation of additional noise barriers and there was no update on noise barrier policy modifications.*

*Environmental Initiatives: Delegate Ross advised passage of HB 895 to establish a plastic shopping (grocery) bag fee was looking positive at this time. The delegates advised they were unsure of the status of additional charging stations for electric vehicles. Delegate Healey advised there had been a hearing today on the container deposit program and there were concerns raised that a deposit program will undermine local recycling programs.*

*Public Ethics (SB 146): Mayor Davis reported Council and Maryland Municipal League (MML) Legislative Committee had voted to support SB 146 which would clarify that Ethics forms required by State law need not include each interest in a mutual funds. She advised the bill had been passed in the Senate. Delegate Healey advised she was unsure of the status of this bill in the House, but noted there were a number of bills regarding Public Ethics being discussed.*

*Repeal Electric Utility Authority to Raise Rates when Decreased Usage is caused by Outages: Mr. Moran explained that this issue appears to be resolved, based on a recent Public Service Commission Order. He said utilities can now only charge a "bill stabilization adjustment" for the first 24 hours of an outage due to major storms.*

*HB 563/SB 567 – Telecommunications Taxes – Reform Commission and Moratorium: There was discussion regarding HB 563/SB 567 that establishes a commission to assess the feasibility and fiscal implications of a competitively neutral telecommunications and fee system. It was noted that there is concern among the public access community that this bill may negatively impact cable franchise/PEG fees. Mayor Davis reported that MML had voted to support this legislation as long*

*as there was municipal representation on the commission.*

### ***City Supported/Opposed Legislation***

*Council noted their support of the following other bills.*

*PG 411/ HB 892: Land Use Decisions – Qualifying Municipalities*

*HB 712: Street Lighting – Purchase by Local Governments*

*PG 301/HB814: Prohibition of Retail Delivery of Alcohol to Consumers*

*HB 1/ SB 208: Recycling Requirement for Apartment Buildings and Condominiums*

*SB 486/ HB 944: Speed Monitoring Systems Enforcement*

*Council noted their opposition to the following bills:*

*SB 360/ HB 415: Permits for signs on State Highway Administration Right-of-Ways*

*HB 359: Temporary Advertising Signs on State Highways*

### ***Other Items***

*Mayor Davis reported that the Federal Highway Administration held the last of their three public hearings on the Baltimore Washington Parkway Widening Feasibility Study a few weeks ago. She advised the City would hold a public hearing on the study at the regular meeting on March 12, 2012.*

*Delegate Ross advised the NAACP had expressed support for the Beltsville site for the Maryland Department of Transportation/CSX Intermodal Facility. Mayor Davis noted that Council had voted to oppose construction of this facility, specifically at the proposed Beltsville site.*

*Delegate Ross mentioned there may be opportunity for the use of County Economic Development Incentive Funds for improvements to Roosevelt Center.*

*The legislators thanked the City for its hospitality. Council thanked the legislators for attending.*

*The meeting ended at 9:15 p.m.*

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Cindy Murray  
City Clerk*